



# From the office of **State Controller Kathy Augustine**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **STATE CONTROLLER REACHES \$2 MILLION IN DEBT COLLECTION**

**Carson City, NV. June 24, 2003.** State Controller Kathy Augustine announced today that her office will collect over \$2 million in debt owed to the State of Nevada by fiscal year end.

“One of my top priorities has been and continues to be collection of the state’s overdue receivables which now exceed \$124 million,” said Controller Augustine. “Currently, fifteen state agencies, boards and commissions have contracted with my office for debt collection services.” During the 2003 regular legislative session, the State Controller’s Office tried unsuccessfully to mandate that all state agencies, except the Department of Taxation and Gaming Commission, turn their outstanding debt over 60 days to the State Controller’s Office for collection.

“The office is authorized to act as the centralized point of collection for the state, however we can only collect debt voluntarily referred by a state agency. Of the \$124 million in outstanding debt, only \$6 million has been turned over to the State Controller’s Office for collection, even though we are collecting at a rate of over \$3,000 per day,” said Augustine.

**“With revenues projected to decrease and the Legislature considering an unprecedented increase in taxes, aggressively pursuing debt owed is critical,” Augustine said. “My office has now collected nearly \$2 million working with only fifteen agencies, imagine the revenue we could generate collecting debt for every state agency.”**

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